

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-53. Canceled.

54. (Currently Amended) A medical device to treat the heart, comprising:  
a cardiac harness ~~that is~~ formed from a metallic material and being self-  
sizing;

the cardiac harness sized to cover at least a portion of the heart; and  
the cardiac harness being compressible to be implanted about the heart  
minimally invasively.

55. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the  
cardiac harness is adapted to generate a compressive force on the heart of not more than  
10 mm Hg.

56. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the  
cardiac harness is elastic and has a deformed shape and a recovered shape when a load is  
applied and removed respectively.

57. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the cardiac  
harness is compressible to a delivery diameter no greater than minimally invasive access  
between the patient's ribs.

58. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the cardiac  
harness is compressible to a delivery diameter no greater than minimally invasive access  
subcostally.

59. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the cardiac harness is compressible to a delivery diameter no greater than minimally invasive access percutaneously through the skin.

60. (Currently Amended) A medical device for treating the heart, comprising:  
a cardiac harness having a pattern of metallic material for applying a compressive force on the heart, the cardiac harness having a compliance expressed in terms of the pressure the harness applies to the heart; and  
the pattern configured to apply pressure on the heart so that the compliance of the cardiac harness is in the range of compliance of the native pericardium.

61. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 60, wherein the cardiac harness [[is]] includes rows of hinge elements adapted to exert pressure on the heart in the range of 3 to 4 mm Hg.

62. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 61, wherein the cardiac harness has a compressed configuration for delivery to the heart by minimally invasive access, and an enlarged configuration wherein the cardiac harness is mounted on the heart and applies the pressure.

63. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 62, wherein the compliance of the cardiac harness is adapted to exert sufficient pressure to cause the heart to reverse remodel.

64. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 63, wherein as the heart reverse remodels, the pressure exerted by the cardiac harness on the heart decreases.

Claims 65 and 66. (Cancel)

67. (New) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the metallic material is Nitinol®.

68. (New) The medical device of claim 54, wherein the cardiac harness comprises interconnected rows of hinge elements.

69. (New) A medical device to treat the heart, comprising:  
a cardiac harness having interconnected rows of metallic hinge elements that are self-sizing;  
the cardiac harness being sized to cover at least a portion of the heart; and  
the cardiac harness being compressible to be implanted about the heart minimally invasively.

70. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness is adapted to generate a compressive force on the heart of not more than 10 mm Hg.

71. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness is elastic and has a deformed shape and a recovered shape when a load is applied and removed respectively.

72. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness is compressible to a delivery diameter no greater than minimally invasive access between the patient's ribs.

73. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness is compressible to a delivery diameter no greater than minimally invasive access subcostally.

74. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness is adapted to exert pressure on the heart in the range of 3 to 4 mm Hg.

75. (New) The medical device of claim 69, wherein the cardiac harness has a compliance adapted to exert sufficient pressure to cause the heart to reverse remodel.

76. (New) The medical device of claim 75, wherein as the heart reverse remodels, the pressure exerted by the cardiac harness on the heart decreases.